



Meeting Minutes and Notes

Annual General Meeting

prepared by Bob Foster, Club Secretary

Date:	20 April 2011
Location:	Club HQ, Maidstone Hockey Club
Attendees:	Floyd Risby, Club Chairman; Michael White, Vice Chairman; Sharon Hawkins, Club Treasurer; Grant Woodman, Life President; Paula Stockton, Membership Secretary; Bob Foster, Club Secretary; Sarah Brenton, Social Secretary Travis Willcox, Rachel Smith, Mel Paszkowski, Sarah Smith, Gwen Moss, Paul Moss, Julie Foster, Debbie Wilson, Tim Erskine, Hannah Erskine, Sharon Barnett, Laura Moreno, Julie Stoppani, Craig Peake, Susan Stratton, Stella Trench, Andrew Burgess, Ollie Stride, Martin Pearson, Graham Pearson, Stephen Turpie, Barrie Page, James McNama, D Wright, R Barnes, David Northcroft, Gerald Krause, Diane George, Darren French, Mark Hewett, Shelley Thwaites, Hannah Parfitt, Kris Painter, Dave Keeling, Darren Quin, Janet Hattersley, David Hattersley, Mark Rawson, Adam Palferman, Kay Banfield, Nick Lake, Michael Nicolaides, David Walsh, Matt Fraser, Russell Morling, Gerard Martin, James Dodd, Steve Wing, Julie Wing, Penny Holden, Paul Ahsunollah, Andy Hall, Linda Hall, Mick Westwood, Derek Evenden, Liane Foord
Apologies:	Alan Keen, Kay Risby, Ian Hoad, Ian Forrest, Paul Holland, Alan Probert, Ben Chapman, Ruth Gill, Colin Gill, Rich Ellison
Purpose of the meeting:	26 th Annual general Meeting of Maidstone Harriers Running Club

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of 2010 AGM
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Treasurers Report
6. Review Of Members' Subscriptions
7. Election of Club Committee
8. Club Constitution
9. Kent Athletics Network
10. Club Championship
11. New Appointments
12. Meet and Greet
13. Club Championship
14. Social
15. Club Newsletter
16. Any Other Business

1. Apologies for absence

Chairman Floyd Risby welcomed members and opened the meeting at 19:35.

He then went on to receive apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of 2010 AGM

Bob Foster pointed out one small error in the minutes, Mike Murdoch was shown as Club Championship coordinator this should be Andrew Burgess.

This change was agreed and the minutes were accepted as a true record of the 2010 AGM. Proposed by David Hattersley, seconded by Rachel Smith.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

4. Chairman's Report

Floyd opened his report by thanking David Hattersley for all he had done for the club in his 9 years as Chairman and pointed out that he was still working hard as Kent Grand Prix and Kent Fitness League Coordinator in addition to serving as Men's Team Captain.

Floyd said that he felt that last year had been one of the best if not the best year in the history of the club, membership had reached 179; we had staged 3 brilliant events with the whole club coming together on race days to ensure their success.

The club had organised a successful trip to Jersey in November, with trips to Edinburgh and Cologne scheduled for this year.

The introduction of the Early Birds group had been a success with several members joining the club from the group. This group along with Liane and Paula's meet and greet policy had increased our ability to retain members.

Floyd asked that if both new and existing members alike had any views or ideas on how the club could be improved please let the committee know.

Floyd felt that the club joining Kent Athletics Network would be a big plus for the club, Tim Erskine will explain later in the meeting.

Floyd then thanked Sarah Brenton and her Social team for all their hard work last year in staging a number of highly successful social events, he also extended his thanks to the partners of the social team many of whom are not club members but still came along and helped. It was also noticeable that more and more people were helping out at events.

Congratulations to the club's ladies team who were successful in their defence of the Kent Grand Prix title and are leading in this year's competition, as are our men's team. Floyd said that he looks upon Maidstone Harriers as one big team!

Floyd said that he did not foresee any fundamental changes in the next year and hopefully we can build on the success of the previous 12 months.

Floyd then thanked the committee for their support and their time given ensuring the smooth running of the club. In addition he also thanked Andrew Burgess for running the club championship, Paul Holland and Traviss Wilcox for managing and developing the club website, Mark Hewett and Darren French for managing the clubs' kit and David and Janet Hattersley for coordinating the Kent Grand Prix and Cross Country.

There had been a fantastic response to Runner of the Year with a record number of votes cast with 2 very close ballots.

Finally Floyd closed his report by saying that he was very proud to be Chairman and a member of Maidstone Harriers.

5. Treasurers Report

Sharon Hawkins explained the income and expense account for 2010/2011 and that they include a comparison to the previous year.

Sharon then said that the club has 2 accounts a current account which is the main working account and used to service the day to day running of the club and a savings account. The opening balance at 31 March 2010 was £553.10 and the end of year closing balance was £662.55. The Savings Account which remained untouched has a balance of £1052.56; in addition the club has a stock kit valued at £1886. The total assets as at 31 March 2011 are £3601.11 (including kit)

Paula Stockton asked what kit the club had

The stock list is

Ladies Vests	£15 x 21=£315
Men's Vests	£15 x 20=£300
T Shirts	£18 x 18=£306
Long Sleeved	£19 x 12=£228
Old Hoodies	£21 x 7 =£147
New Hoodies	£20 x 26=£520
Jackets	£35 x 2 =£70
	Total £1886

Graham Clarkson then presented the race accounts and explained that the races are funded independently from the main Club accounts.

The club had taken a big step forward last year by using chip timing for each of our 3 races, the cost of this was £2291 per race even so the races still made a profit of £587.69. The Weald of Kent 10 and Turkey Run made small losses but the Half made a profit. The entry

limits were raised for The Weald of Kent and Half Marathon and all 3 races had reached their entry limits.

The Firework Night was funded by the Race Account and in order to beat tax increases the portable toilets and Cider for this year's Weald of Kent have been purchased in advance.

Graham explained that the race account needed to have a large balance at the start of the year as we incur large expenses before any income from entry fees is received.

Grant said that all 3 races will have increased entry limits this year and that 3 different chip timing suppliers were being used, Bob Foster pointed out that last year's chip timers had processed all the entries in their price, Michael White confirmed that the club will be processing all the entries this year to save on cost.

Hannah Erskine asked if entry fees were increased this year as she felt that any increase may deter runners from entering. Matt Fraser said that all entry fees had increased by £2 this year, Grant explained that Kent Highways will be charging for road closures this year and we will have to employ an approved contractor to erect signage and install the road closures. Kent Police will not be involved this year.

A copy of Club and Race accounts Income and Expenditure can be found in appendix A

6. Review of Members' Subscriptions

Sharon Hawkins advised that it was not necessary to increase membership rates for the forthcoming year, the only change will be the removal of joint membership and adjustment to the family rate to £40 for the first member then £20 for every subsequent member. The second claim membership rate will stay the same at £30

Single membership £40

Family Membership £40 + £20 per extra member

Second Claim Membership £30

Floyd Risby asked for approval from the floor. The floor agreed with the amendments by a majority vote.

7. Election Club Committee

For the committee positions nominations and seconders were sought and received as below.

+ remain in place without the need for nomination

Position	Nominee	Nominated by	Seconded By
Chairman	Floyd Risby	David Hattersley	Paula Stockton
Vice Chairman	Dave Keeling	Floyd Risby	Bob Foster
Secretary	Bob Foster	Floyd Risby	Sharon Hawkins
Treasurer	Sharon Hawkins	Sarah Brenton	David Hattersley
Membership Secretary	Paula Stockton	Floyd Risby	Bob Foster
Social Secretary	Sarah Brenton	Paula Stockton	Sharon Hawkins
Events Secretary	Matthew Fraser+		
Club Championship Coordinator	Andrew Burgess+		
Webmaster	Paul Holland+ Travis Wilcox+		
Club Kit	Mark Hewett+ Darren French+		

8. Club Constitution

Floyd thanked Denise Wright, Mel Paszkowski, Hannah Erskine, Russell Morling, Mike Murdoch, Adam Palferman and Sharon Hawkins for their hard work in producing a Constitution that reflected the club and was acceptable to UKA.

Sharon explained that the document had been tailored to suit our club particularly with regard to members aged 16 / 17 needing parental consent and committee approval to run with the club, the standard UKA club constitution has a minimum age of 18. Our revised wording was submitted to UKA and approved by them. The other change to the constitution is that all committee positions become up for election annually instead of 2 yearly.

Floyd asked the floor to vote on adoption of the new constitution. The membership voted in favour by a large majority.

9. Kent Athletics Network

Tim Erskine the clubs KAN coordinator stated that we had not paid for last year but would pay £400 for the coming year.

Tim is arranging 3 workshops to be held on Wednesday evenings

May – Nutrition

June – Strength and Conditioning

September - Training transition – summer into winter

By joining KAN the club would have access to an 8 week flying coach programme and access to funding for members to qualify as coaches. The club would have access to a wider range of events and coaches in addition to athlete and coach development days.

Tim is currently working with Mark Dayson (Head of KAN) to sort out track time at Sutton Valance School but there are currently planning and rate issues with the school which is hindering use of the track. Tim and Mark are meeting with Medway and Maidstone to try and arrange a suitable time and fee for use of the track.

Julie Stoppani asked which track we were negotiating for the use of, Tim replied Sutton Valance.

Grant Woodman said that he felt that Medway and Maidstone AC were dominating the track and denying us the use of it. Grant then stated that back in the 90's the club had actually given large sums of money from the proceeds of the half marathon towards a track in Maidstone for the use of residents and he felt that Maidstone residents were being badly treated by access being denied.

Paula Stockton added that track access was only part of KAN membership.

Floyd said that Maidstone Borough Council had been asked to mark out a grass track in South Park as there had been one previously; MBC said that they would mark out once football had finished.

Nigel Warren said that South Park was not suitable

Hannah Erskine added that we need to have a specific time allocated for track use to avoid clashing with football training etc.

Tim said that he wanted the best possible deal for the club.

Adam Palferman asked if the workshops would be available to all members; Tim said that they would and would be held at the hockey club on Wednesday evenings, possible starting our runs earlier with the workshops after, athlete and coach development days normally held on Saturdays and it was up to members to say what they want, there would be no extra charge for workshops and development days etc.

Sharon Hawkins added that the club would pay the £400 KAN fee and there would be no additional charge to members.

Floyd asked the floor to vote on whether the club should join Kent Athletics Network, the members present voted in favour of joining by large majority.

10. Early Birds and Tri Section

Denise Wright was nominated to represent the Early Birds Section on the committee, seconded by Steven Turpie

Michael White was nominated to represent the Tri Section on the committee, seconded by Andrew Burgess

Michael White proposed the Club join the British Triathlon Federation at a cost of £105 per year and included liability insurance and club members joining BTF have a reduced membership fee of £40 rather than £51 if the club were not members. Members joining would have individual cover worldwide.

Floyd asked for a show of hands from the floor, the majority of the members present were in favour of joining BTF.

11. New Appointments

Kent Grand Prix and Cross Country Coordinator – David Hattersley

Men's Team Captain – Stephen Turpie

Men's Vice Captain – James Mcnama

Ladies Team Captain – Sharon Barnett

Ladies Vice Captain – Hannah Erskine

12. Meet and Greet

Liane Foord nominated by Floyd Risby, seconded Peter Foxall

Floyd thanked Liane and Paula for their hard work over the past year in meeting and greeting new members. Liane welcomes them to the club and sorts out the paperwork and Paula follows up a couple of days later with a welcome email and pack.

Paula said that it was hard to catch up with all new members after their run, it would be easier if there were more members willing to spend a few minutes chatting with new members on their return and to cover for Liane and Paula when they were not around.

Dave Keeling suggested producing a member's handbook and Sharon Barnett added that it would be beneficial to have photos of the committee in handbook or pack sent out.

Steve Wing added that he or Stewart can produce the pack if needed.

13. Club Championship

Andrew Burgess had been looking at ways of making the competition more competitive and had posted various ideas on the club website; to date no great preference had been expressed so it is intended to keep the same format this year.

James Mcnama stated that he did not feel that the current situation was fair to faster runners and there was no incentive for faster runners to run faster.

Barrie Page added that he thought that the current PB bonus system was over generous and penalised faster runners as they generally cannot score heavily for PB's.

A general discussion followed and it was agreed to keep the existing format for this year but look at the format of next year's championship in October.

Nigel Warren said that we need to decide on championship races earlier as several races had reached their entry limit before members had entered.

Paula Stockton replied that the races cannot be picked until the Grand Prix and County Championship races are chosen.

14. Social

Social secretary Sarah Brenton presented her reports as follows;

"I am sure you will all agree that this last year has been a very busy one for social events. In 2010 we put on a very successful presentation evening, our first Harriers BBQ in July where we raised £300 for Rosie's charity Bamako Bampots, a social after the Thanet Marathon, a trip to Shepherd and Neame Brewery in September, a quiz night chaired by Peter Seadon-Jones in October, a brilliant fireworks display at Grant's house in November, the first Harriers children's party in December and a social get together before Christmas.

This year in January we had an extremely successful dinner and dance at the Village Hotel with around 80 people, a trip to the Hazlitt Theatre to see Mel which was excellent and of course the presentation evening a few weeks ago with a brilliant live band called 'Where's Brian?'. Also thanks to Paula for organising many curry nights which are always very popular and other help.

I would like to say a big thank you to the social committee, for all their help this year, namely Shelley, Julie Foster, Sarah Smith, Dave Keeling, Mel, Alan, Steve Wing, Gwen and Lizzie. Also thanks to everyone else who has helped organise events, especially those who help on the day of events and with setting up and clearing away, especially Michael White and Nigel. All your help is very much appreciated.

Our next social event is going to be Go Ape on Saturday 28 May at 2:00pm at Leeds Castle. There is a list around for you to put your name on if you are interested and we are organising a trip to see Katherine Jenkins at King's Hill. Let Dave Keeling, Shelley or me know if you are interested. Also planned is a wine tasting evening, social walk, the BBQ on

16 July, dog racing, ten pin bowling, London Theatre trip, fireworks evening, children's party and a trip to the panto. We are planning on more events too but struggling to fit them all in!

As always any help or ideas for events are always welcome.

Thank you again for everyone's help and hard work over the last year in making social events such successes. I am sure we will continue to do so over the next year. A date for next year's diary is the Dinner and Dance on Saturday 28 January 2012 at the Village Hotel "

15. Club Newsletter

Paula said that Michael Gore no longer wished to produce the club newsletter. Hannah Erskine volunteered to take on the role and Rachel Smith offered to assist her. Hannah made an appeal for articles and Tim added that they need not be running related.

16. Any other Business

Rachel Smith said that this year that there were more members wishing to marshal than places available, as this is a qualifying criteria for the clubs guaranteed marathon entries perhaps there should be a ballot for marshalling places.

Bob Foster explained that this year we were originally allocated 40 places which were quickly taken but a reserve list existed. Subsequently 50 places were available and all those on the reserve list were able to marshal. In fact due to people dropping out we only had 45 marshals on the day.

Julie Foster added that her daughters were not originally going to marshal as places were limited but when more places became available and people dropped out they marshalled.

Steve Wing asked if it was likely that the club would be asked to marshal at the Olympic Marathons, Bob Foster replied that it was doubtful due to the nature of the course and the small number of competitors.

Nigel Warren said that 'Boot Camp' would be starting again next Tuesday at 7:15 and the core sessions will continue on Wednesday's but may have to stop at the end of the summer.

Dave Keeling offered to look after the club notice board assisted by Mark Hewett

Liane gave a vote of thanks to Nigel (Gazebo Man) for all his efforts.

Floyd thanked Bob Foster for continuing to organise the clubs' involvement with the London Marathon.

Michael White asked if photographs from facebook could be placed on the club website so that all members could see them.

Travis Wilcox suggested a new trophy 'Comeback Runner of the Year' to be awarded annually to members making a comeback from injury etc. Mike Murdoch asked if this could be included in the nominations for runner of the year.

Floyd then asked the floor to vote on the creation of the 'Comeback Runner of the Year' trophy, the members voted by 26 votes to 4 in favour.

Paula thanked Floyd for all his efforts over the past year.

The meeting closed at 21:35 and refreshments taken

